

Special Interest Articles: EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM/ 02 64962094/ EMAIL promo@killerwhalemuseum.com.au

- ❖ 100 years of ANZAC - Keep the home fires burning



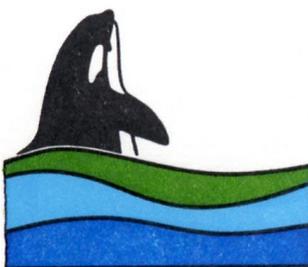
- ❖ Historic Sites – Eden’s newspaper office
- ❖ A paper bag of treasures
- ❖ Australia’s biggest beanie-Easter hat Parade
- ❖ Cupcakes for Cancer – book launch
- ❖ Visit to the Lady Denham museum.
- ❖ Pambula – droughts and flooding rains
- ❖ SEHGI at Pambula

NOTE – check out our home page click on the icon on the right hand side for a virtual tour of our Museum! Thanks to Chris Sheedy at www.reflexe.com.au

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Keep the Home Fires Burning

During WW1 a district resident complained at the extra cost of living. *“Prior to the war I bought a paper twice weekly – now I buy a paper every day to keep up with the news.”* Reading local papers provided families with a list of the wounded.

At the start of WW1 army reservists were mobilized. Young men quickly rushed to enlist. Their mothers were given a medal when they signed on. Churches gave patriotic services and many patriotic organisations emerged.

The Bega newspaper reported - *“A number of loyalists towards midnight on Tuesday were so enthusiastic that they loudly broke into song with renditions of “Rule Britannia” and “God Save the King”.* Recruiting marches were popular. *“Men from Snowy River” left from Delegate with 12 recruits, 28 presented themselves at Bombala – 6 were rejected.* Recruits were required to have a full set of teeth with no fillings – not so common in rural areas.

The Candelo Knitting Class in Bega became very well known for their war efforts. Founded in July 1916 they fired up to “do their bit for the boys”. *“At a Paddy’s Market held at Wolumla last week the sum of £46 was raised for the purpose of buying material for knitting classes (460 hanks of looped wool) responding to urgent appeals from soldiers in the trenches of France and Belgium for clean, dry socks.”* These hand knitted socks outlasted machine made hosiery.

They also sent 53 comfort parcels containing socks, handkerchiefs, cigarettes, tobacco, soap and sweets to local soldiers, formed an entertainment troupe, and

raised funds catering for parties, the Candelo show, polling days and dances. They also raised funds for the Bega hospital. Steps were taken to register and imprison Austrian and German Nationals. A visitor told me his grandfather, who was of German descent, was harassed to such an extent that he left his family and travelled back to Germany where he enlisted in the German army. The family believed he was lost at sea and were unable to trace any records as they were destroyed at the end of WW2.

Newspapers railed against “shirkers” and those “with cold feet” – the following story appeared in the paper - *“Maud Butler, a 17 year old Newcastle girl who had twice before attempted to go to the front dressed in a soldier’s uniform was fined one shilling on the raising of the court in Sydney last week for wearing a uniform when not in the army. Evidently Maud hasn’t cold feet and should make a splendid wife.”* Dairy farmers were asked to give one day’s milk and locals urged to grow vegetables to help returned servicemen and the hospitals treating them. Kameruka Estate at Candelo, owned by Sir Robert Lucas-Tooth of Tooth’s Brewery donated one ton of cheese for soldiers at the front – he later lost his three sons and died not long after – it was reported – of a broken heart.

There was a shortage of butter locally, the government prohibited the export of butter then imposed butter price fixing. Due to the drought in 1914 many farmers had to sell their herds and butter factories closed. Rabbit freezing works were more economic. Locally bred horses sold to the military horse buyer for £10 - £22 - 10 shillings. The cost of living rose - *“beer in Bega had advanced 100% to 6 pence a glass.”*



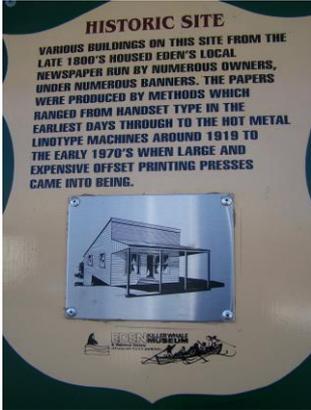
Children dressed as Red Cross nurses, ca. 1915

The wattle bark industry prospered providing chemicals for the tanning process. Local timber mills started turning out axe handles and a Bermagui mill provided pick and shovel handles to be used on the front, no doubt used to dig trenches.

145 NSW teachers went to the front making it difficult to keep country schools going. The Bega Budget reported – *“it was pleasing to note that a couple of our leading footballers did not allow the claims of their club to override their duty to the Empire but it was a calamity that war should be declared before the football season had closed.”* Local football collapsed only to be restored in 1918. Cycling clubs also disappeared taking the fit young riders to the trenches. *“The sporting censor has disallowed Candelo’s spring racing meeting.”* Showing how life had changed dramatically for those keeping the home fires burning.



The Power Of the Press



Our next historic site, pictured here, housed a building which became the home of Eden's long list of newspapers.

Eden's newspapers were as follows
 - 1860 – *The Twofold Bay and Maneroo Telegraph*

1866 – 1899 – *The Twofold Bay and Maneroo Observer*

1865 – 1900 *Eden and District Southern Coast Advertiser*

1874 -1923 *Eden General Advertiser*

1897 - 1899 – *The Eden Free Press*

1899 *Eden District Advertiser*

1902 – 1903 – *Eden Propeller and Twofold Bay Advocate*

1903 – 1910 – *The Eden Observer and South Coast Advocate*

-1915- *Magnet*

1940 – 1990 – *The Eden Magnet-Voice*

1993 – *Magnet* – our present day paper.

After 120 years in print under various names, owners and banners, the *Eden Magnet* tells a story of survival and change. The Kiandra gold rush inspired the first two papers prompting the following comment “*The first number of the Twofold Bay & Maneroo Telegraph, a weekly paper, of demy size, made its appearance on the*

11th instant, & is likely to be of much service to the district...”

The Twofold Bay and Maneroo Telegraph, and the Twofold Bay and Maneroo Observer had a short battle for supremacy which finally closed them both down.

It wasn't until May 1882, with the establishment by L. J. O'Toole of the *Candelo & Eden Union* that the town got another locally based newspaper. Editorship passed to Walter Wood in 1887, & in November that year the *Union's* founder L. J. O'Toole, set up in competition with the *Bega Enterprise & Eden Beacon*.

W. T. Campbell had established the *Eden Free Press* in January 1897, continuing until the paper ceased operations in June 1899.

J. O'Toole tried his hand at yet another publication, establishing the *Eden Propellor* in December 1902, passing over to James Morgan in September 1903, & three weeks later, the paper became known as the *Eden Observer*, which Morgan continued until



Doug Hepburn, *Magnet* owner & editor between 1948 & 1968.
 © Angela George

1907, when it merged with the *South Coast Advertiser*. Continuing to run the *Magnet* until 1915, Sheehy sold out to Rod Morris who, in turn passed ownership to Mr. G. R. Phillipps in 1919, around which time the name was changed to the *Eden Magnet*. Mr. Phillipps carried on as editor until his death in 1939, when his son G. F. (“Fabian”) took over. The Pambula Voice amalgamated with the *Eden Magnet* in 1941 shifting production to the Eden office. From the time of the amalgamation between the *Magnet* & the *Voice*, the paper's name has changed several times, including the *Magnet-Voice*, & *The Magnet & The Voice* before finally carrying the *Imlay Magnet* banner. And finally the big boys took over with the *Magnet* now owned by Fairfax Media.
 Ed. Credit – Angela George



Chris Bingham – L, showing David O'Connor – R, his file of photographs' Hellen Walder Below and Robin Clark on the Right

Paper bags of Treasures

A huge task being undertaken at present by Chris Bingham, Robin Clark and Hellen Walder, all friends of EKWM, is both time consuming and laborious.

These three dedicated volunteers are donating their time to work through a collection of photographs, passed on to us from the *Magnet*, in paper bags and boxes. They are now stored in protective photo files.

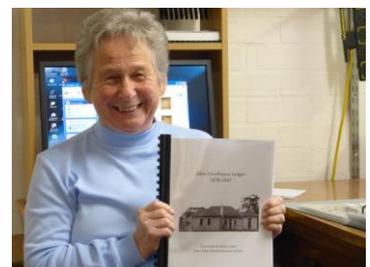
Chris, Hellen and Robin are

cross referencing each photo with *Magnet* articles, using information on the back of the photo – often finding that the relevant pages of the newspapers are missing. Some are a mystery with no dates or names to give a clue of where they belong, providing the occasional “eureka moment” when a local face is recognized or the photo jogs a memory and a match occurs.

They have been working on this project since April last year for two days each week and have

only one box of photographs to go. They also help visitors to our library out with their research projects.

This photographic history of our town will be installed on Mosaic for all to explore and enjoy.



Knitting Australia's Biggest Beanie

For all those wondering how our Australia's Biggest Beanie project is going, here are some amazing updates.

Facilitated by teacher Sue Lee, Margaret Sheaves, Jane and Susie Sarah visited the Eden Public School to teach students to knit and encourage their participation in the project.

Teacher Kate Mamone from the Eden Marine High School



is pictured here with a student handing over 180 squares knitted by students – mostly boys with help from their grandmothers!

The high school is also making a film about our project as part of their media studies.

EKWM friends are now stitching all the squares together and have more than enough to make the huge



beanie.

On Easter Saturday the hat parade on the steps of the Hotel Australasia drew a crowd and some innovative entries to our competition

Prizewinners enjoyed Easter eggs and we raised more funds for the Look Good Feel Better foundation.

Our thanks to those involved and to Tribal Suzani for supplying beanies.



Above – Kate Mamone and an Eden Marine High School student with squares, Jane Adam with students at Eden Public School, June Whalley modelling her beanie and to the left a group of our contestants.

Cupcakes for Cancer and Book Launches

March was a busy month with a very successful Seniors week. International Women's Day was well attended and very successful. In April some new books hit the shelves of our shop.

David O'Connor released "This Other Eden" a collection of poetry about Eden featuring local poets.

On April the 11th "Snug

Cove Sam" and "Bob the Bakery Cat" by local author Susie Sarah were launched by Vanessa Milton of ABC Open fame under the sails at the museum, with a cupcake bake off judged by Leona Symonds of the CWA. The CWA and EKWM friends and generous locals donated baked goods. The cake stall, which sold out, raised \$200 for the Look Good Feel Better foundation. A

further \$72 of donations made the day a great success.

The winners of the cupcake bake-off received a copy of "Bob the Bakery Cat" and a certificate.

The total to date of our fund raising is now well over \$2,000 and growing.



Prizewinners – Jenny Drenkhahn above, L – Leona Symonds handing out awards, the CWA ladies setting up their cake stall, Sarncha Adams the young winner of the best decorated cupcakes and Anne Buljan with her winning entry.

Friends visit the Lady Denman Museum

A group of EKWM friends enjoyed a visit to the Lady Denman and Fleet Air Museum Naval Museum at Nowra in February. An exhibition by artist John Downton was featured at the Fleet Air Museum.

The Lady Denman – a ferry

built at Huskisson of local timber - was floated into a huge excavated pond which was then emptied and the museum built around the vessel.

Extensive landscaped gardens and interesting exhibits make this museum a must to visit.

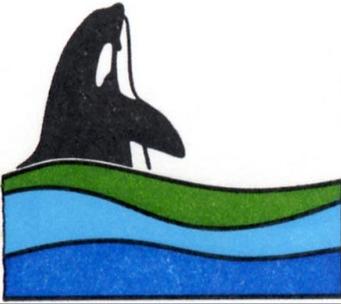
It is interesting to note that our

museum was purpose built to house "Old Tom" much as the Lady Denman is housed by a purpose built museum.

Our group also enjoyed a sociable dinner and their stay at the Shoalhaven Heads Caravan Park.



Pambula – droughts and flooding rains



COMING EVENTS:

11TH APRIL – 26TH MAY
NATIONAL TRUST
HERITAGE FESTIVAL

30TH MAY – SEMINAR
BEGA GENEALOGY
SOCIETY

6TH JUNE – LAUNCH
AUSTRALIA'S BIGGEST
BEANIE

8TH AUGUST – SEHGI
MEETING EDEN



This unusual museum visitor was spotted by Bob Sykes and quickly recorded – a goat in a stock crate was parked in the next bay.

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

SEE US AT.

www.killerwhalemuseum.com.au

The SEHGI meeting at the Panboola Wetlands gave us an opportunity to explore the history of this fascinating area.

The Pambula River was first chartered in 1822 by Captain Edwardson, and by the 1830s the pastoral industry was well established on Pambula Flat.

The Thaua people of the Yuin nation shook their heads in amazement as settlers built on the flood plain.

The 17 square miles Panboola Station had 150 acres of wheat and barley under cultivation but was in the grip of a severe drought and bush fires in 1839 – 40, followed by flooding which drowned head stockman William Coleman.

The original village of Pambula was surveyed in 1843

and the cutter *Black Swan* collected potatoes, butter, wool, wattle bark, tallow and hides from a landing place alongside Imlay Station.

The township on the rich alluvial flats flourished with a permanent public school opening in 1850.

Major floods in 1851 changed the course of the Pambula river and the township moved to higher ground.

A pattern of droughts and fires followed by floods wrought havoc on crops, destroying many town buildings. All the businesses located on the Pambula Flats suffered. A 50 acre recreation reserve set up on the flats in 1880 was used as

a racecourse, a training ground, a cricket ground and for “public amusement”.

In the 1890s oyster farming commenced on the river only to be impacted by a flood in 1919 which broke the river bank above Oaklands rushing through cow yards and shifting fences.

The Bega Standard noted in 1891-*the site selected for the race track was on land over which tidal waters have an influence.* Racing enthusiasts recall the 1992 flood *reaching the window ledges of the Jockeys rooms, a height of one and a half meters.*

After 100 years of horse racing on the heavy Imlay Racing Club track, the club held its final meeting – the last race a dead heat with just two horses running. They now race at Kalaru. The land now, sensibly, forms The Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Reserve Trust.

SEHGI meeting at Pambula

Robyn Kesby, secretary of the Pambula Wetlands and Heritage Reserve Trust, pictured here with Garry Moorhead president of the Merimbula Historic Society, gave the May SEHGI meeting great insight into the history and setting up of the wetlands situated on what was once the Pambula Racecourse.

Other parts of the reserve were once owned by Syms Covington who sailed with Charles Darwin on the Beagle to Australia in the 1830's.

In 1997 Alexandra Seddon purchased 6 hectares in Bullara St. for conservation as a water-bird sanctuary. In 2001 she added 42 hectares of river flats and the Heritage Project was formed. She gifted her land in 2003 and the site was named “Panboola” (two waters or meeting of the waters).

Visitors and locals now cycle, walk and enjoy picnics in this beautifully area protected and maintained by volunteers.

Those at the meeting held in the building once known as “Watsons”, which they use as their headquarters, went on to enjoy an informative walk through the wetlands guided by Robyn.



EDEN KILLER WHALE MUSEUM

SCHEDULE OF MEETINGS:

EXEC PANEL MEETING	1 PM 2 ND THURSDAY	MUSEUM LIBRARY
CURATORIAL MEETING	1 PM 1 ST MONDAY	MUSEUM LIBRARY
FRIENDS MEETING	9.30AM 3 RD WEDNESDAY	MUSEUM LIBRARY